

Message Text

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44

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /018 W
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P R 111200Z MAR 75
FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2280
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THESSALONIKI 0182

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJECT: SY MOBILE TRAINING TEAMS

REF: A-1303, FEBRUARY 27, 1975

STATE FOR PROJECT OFFICER, EDUCATION AND TRAINING
STAFF, OFFICE OF SECURITY (A/SY/E&T)

ATHENS FOR RSO

1. ALTHOUGH NOTED THAT PROGRAM OUTLINED REF FOR
FY-1975 EXCLUDES EUR POSTS, URGE THAT CONSIDERATION
BE GIVEN TO HAVING TEAM OR EVEN SINGLE OFFICER
VISIT THESSALONIKI FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS TO PROVIDE
INSTRUCTION ON SUBJECT MATTER LISTED LETTERED
PARAS. A & B, ALL OF WHICH APPLICABLE HERE.
POST NOW HOLDS WEAPONRY INDICATED. NO RPT NO
LIVE FIRING FOR FAMILIARIZATION CONTEMPLATED.

2. POST MEETS CRITERIA OF HAVING NO RPT NO
RESIDENT RSO OR MARINE SECURITY GUARDS, AND IS
FACED WITH CURRENT, CONTINUING THREAT IN
ATMOSPHERE OF RAMPANT ANTI-AMERICANISM, AGITATED
BY RADICAL ELEMENTS OF BOTH EXTREMES. SITUATION
FURTHER AGGRAVATED BY PRESENCE ON THESSALONIKI
UNIVERSITY CAMPUS (LARGEST IN GREECE) OF CONTINGENTS
OF APPROXIMATELY 2000 EACH OF CYPRIOT AND PALESTINIAN-
JORDANIAN-ARAB STUDENTS, INTERMIXED WITH COMMUNIST
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ELEMENTS. AS WE HAVE REPORTED, HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS

AT CONGEN HAVE BEEN FREQUENT, AND MORE ARE ANTICIPATED.
CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE PROMPTED POLICE POST AUGMENTED
ROUND-THE-CLOCK SECURITY PROTECTION HERE,
INCLUDING CARBINED GUARDS, PLAINCLOTHESMEN,
STANDBY VAN OF GENDARMES, MOBILE BODYGUARD
FOR PO, AND TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR ARMED ROOF WATCH. IN
CURRENT ATMOSPHERE, CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL APPROPRIATE
POST PERSONNEL BE INSTRUCTED IN PROPER USE AND
MAINTENANCE OF WEAPONRY ON HAND, PROTECTIVE AND DEFENSIVE
TECHNIQUES, CONTINGENCY SAFETY PLANS, ETC., WHICH
MOBILE TEAM COULD PROVIDE.

3. THESSALONIKI COULD EASILY BE WAY STOP EN ROUTE MIDDLE
EAST OR AFRICA, WITH DIRECT DAILY SERVICES BY
LUFTHANSA AND OLYMPIC FROM PRINCIPAL GERMAN CITIES,
FREQUENT FLIGHTS DIRECT FROM LONDON ON BRITISH AIR &
OLYMPIC, FROM VIENNA BY AUSTRIAN, AND NON-STOP LUFTHANSA
SERVICES TO BEIRUT, CAIRO AND KHARTOUM.

4. RSO CONCURS.
BRENNAN

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